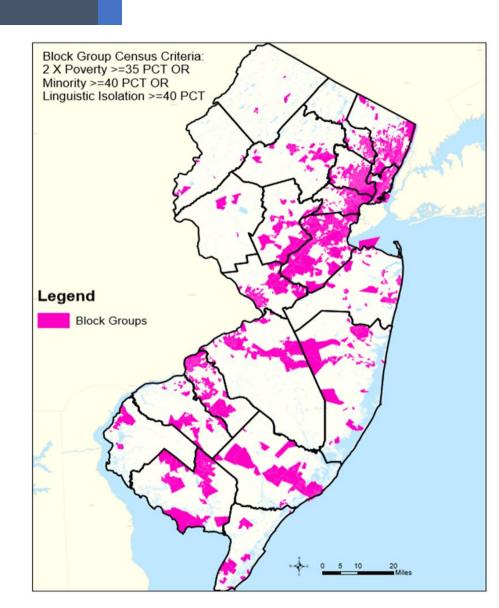
# Overburdened Communities Webinar 2/9/21

# Facilities and Permits Covered

- One of eight (8) types of facilities:
  - o major sources of air pollution (e.g., power plants, cogeneration facilities);
  - o incinerators or resource recovery facilities;
  - o large sewage treatment plants (more than 50 million gallons per day);
  - o transfer stations or solid waste facilities;
  - recycling facilities that receive at least 100 tons of recyclable material per day;
  - o scrap metal facilities;
  - o landfills; or
  - medical waste incinerators, except those attendant to hospital and universities.
- Seeking a specific permit
  - Including solid waste and recycling, development (wetlands, CAFRA, Flood Hazard), water supply and pollution, air pollution and pesticides
- For facilities located or proposed to be located in an "overburdened community"

# Defining "Overburdened Community"

- Low-Income: At least 35% of households qualify as low-income households; or
- Minority: at least 40% of the residents identify as minority or as members of a state recognized tribal community; or
- Limited English proficiency: at least 40% of the households have limited English proficiency



# Environmental and Public Health Stressors

Environmental stressors to include, but not be limited to:

Concentrated areas of air pollution;

Mobile sources of air pollution;

Contaminated sites;

Transfer stations or other solid waste facilities;

Recycling facilities;

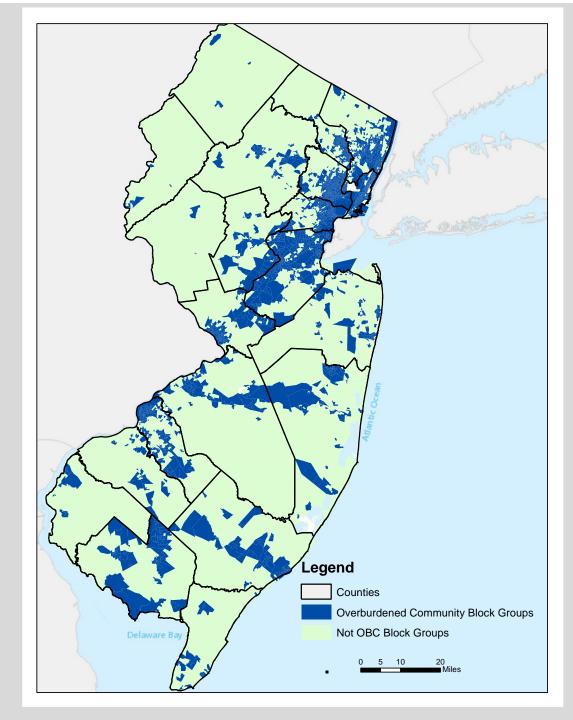
Scrap yards, and

Point-sources of water pollution including, but not limited to, water pollution from facilities or combined sewer overflows.

- Public health stressors are "conditions that <u>may cause</u> potential public health impacts in the overburdened community
- Public health impacts include, but are not limited to:
  - o Asthma
  - o Cancer
  - Elevated blood lead levels
  - Cardiovascular disease
  - Developmental problems

## Geographic Point of Comparison

- The Bill requires the Department to determine whether environmental or public health stressors are disproportionate to those borne by other communities within the State, county, or other geographic unit of analysis as determined by the department.
- What is the appropriate geographic unit?
  - o County?
  - o State?
  - o Region?



# Requirements for DEP and Applicants

- Requires the submission of an environmental justice impact statement and public hearing for any application for a permit to expand, construct or renew the authorization to operate a covered facility.
- Environmental justice impact statement identifies existing public health and environmental stressors in the community.
- NJDEP reviews the environmental justice impact statement, along with other relevant information, to
  determine whether there is a disproportionate impact from environmental and public health stressors
  that cannot be avoided through additional controls.
- If there is a disproportionate impact that cannot be avoided for a new facility, DEP will deny the application unless there is a compelling public interest.
- For renewals and expansions, DEP can only apply additional conditions but cannot deny a permit

# Overburdened Community Data Tools 2/9/21

nj.gov/dep/ej/communities.html







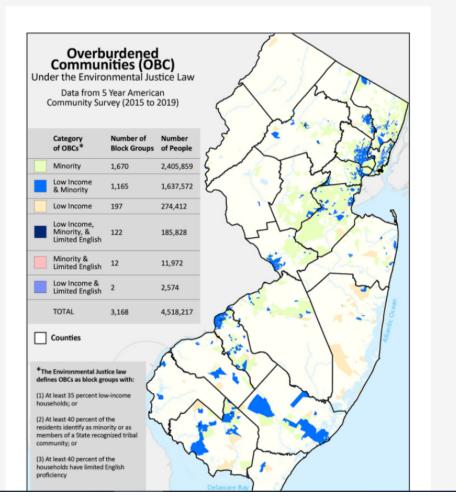
## **Environmental Justice Overburdened Communities (OBC)**

Signed into law by Governor Phil Murphy on September 18, 2020, New Jersey's groundbreaking Environmental Justice Law, N.J.S.A. 13:1D-157, (Law) requires the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) to evaluate the contributions of certain facilities to existing environmental and public health stressors in overburdened communities when reviewing certain permit applications. Read New Jersey's Environmental Justice Law. The law also directs the NJDEP to publish a list of overburdened communities and provide notice to the 331 municipalities in which those communities are located.

An Overburdened Community (OBC), as defined by the law, is any census block group, as determined in accordance with the most recent United States Census, in which:

- 1. at least 35 percent of the households qualify as low-income households (at or below twice the poverty threshold as determined by the United States Census Bureau);
- 2. at least 40 percent of the residents identify as minority or as members of a State recognized tribal community; or
- 3. at least 40 percent of the households have limited English proficiency (without an adult that speaks English "very well" according to the United States Census Bureau).

#### Statewide Overburdened Communities Map















This Excel spreadsheet provides the list of overburdened communities, the criteria each block groups meets, and the municipality for which the overburdened community is designated in accordance with the New Jersey Environmental Justice Law, N.J.S.A. 13:1D-157.

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#### **Environmental Justice Mapping Tool**

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#### PDF Maps of Municipalities

The 331 simple, municipal specific maps identify the overburdened communities under the New Jersey Environmental Justice Law. There is a map for each municipality for which any part of the municipality has been designated an overburdened community pursuant to the act.

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# NEW JERSEY ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE LAW Overburdened Communities

#### Technical Notes for the Calculation of Overburdened Communities and their Municipal Designation in Accordance with the New Jersey Environmental Justice Law

Signed into law by Governor Phil Murphy on September 18, 2020, New Jersey's groundbreaking Environmental Justice Law, N.J.S.A. 13:1D-157, (Law) requires the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) to evaluate the contributions of certain facilities to existing environmental and public health stressors in overburdened communities when reviewing certain permit applications.

Pursuant to the Law, the Legislature designated an overburdened community as any census block group, as determined in accordance with the most recent United States Census, in which: (1) at least 35 percent of the households qualify as low-income households (at or below twice the poverty threshold as determined by the United States Census Bureau); (2) at least 40 percent of the residents identify as minority or as members of a State recognized tribal community; or (3) at least 40 percent of the households have limited English proficiency (without an adult that speaks English "very well" according to the United States Census Bureau).

To meet this requirement, NJDEP used the most recent census data from 2019 (5-year American Community Survey Data 2015 to 2019). Calculations were done for Census Block Groups (Summary Level 150) and Tribal Areas (Summary Level 280). The table below summarizes the calculations.

The US Census County Subdivision (Summary Level 60) GIS files were then used to identify the municipality for which the overburdened community is designated. These files are similar to New Jersey's municipal boundaries but align with the census block group files needed to comply with the Law. If at least one block group in the municipality met the definition of overburdened community in the Law the municipality will be notified.

If the overburdened community block groups are viewed with New Jersey's municipal GIS data layer, small "slivers" of block groups may be visible. This is due to minor differences between municipal boundaries and census data. As neither data layer provides legal boundaries and are to be used for statistical purposes only, the US Census County Subdivision GIS files are being used for the designation. The department is also informing these municipalities of the "sliver" issue.

Note: Blank fields in the Excel file, interactive mapping tool, and GIS downloadable file are found where Census data was not available.

Also note: The boundary information in the shapefiles used are for statistical data collection and tabulation purposes only; their depiction and designation does not constitute a determination of jurisdictional authority or rights of ownership or entitlement and they are not legal land descriptions.

Definition of OBCs under EJ Law	Census Table	Census Field Calculations
at least 35 percent of the	C17002: ratio of income to	(C17002_001: Total Population for whom poverty status is
households qualify as low-income	poverty level in the past 12	determined-C17002_008: Population 2.00 and
households;	months	over)/C17002_001: Total Population for whom poverty
		status is determined
at least 40 percent of the	B03002: Hispanic or Latino	(B03002_001:Total Population-B03002_003: Not Hispanic
residents identify as minority or	origin by race	or Latino, white alone)/B03002_001:Total Population
as members of a State recognized		
tribal community;		
at least 40 percent of the	C16002: household language	(C16002_004:Spanish Limited English Speaking Household
households have limited English	by households in which no one	+ C16002_007Other Indo-European languages Limited
proficiency.	14 and over speaks English	English Speaking Household + C16002_010:Asian and
	only or speaks a language	Pacific Islander Limited English Speaking Household +
	other than English at home	C16002_013: Other Languages Limited English Speaking
	and speaks English "very well"	Household)/C16002 001:Total Households

The most recent, 2019 (5-year Amercican Community Survey Data 2015 to 2019) was used.

Calculations were done for Census Block Groups and Tribal Areas, as defined by the Law.

The US Census County Subdivision GIS files were used to identify the designated municipality for the block groups that meet the overburdened community criteria.





This Excel spreadsheet provides the list of overburdened communities, the criteria each block groups meets, and the municipality for which the overburdened community is designated in accordance with the New Jersey Environmental Justice Law, N.J.S.A. 13:1D-157.

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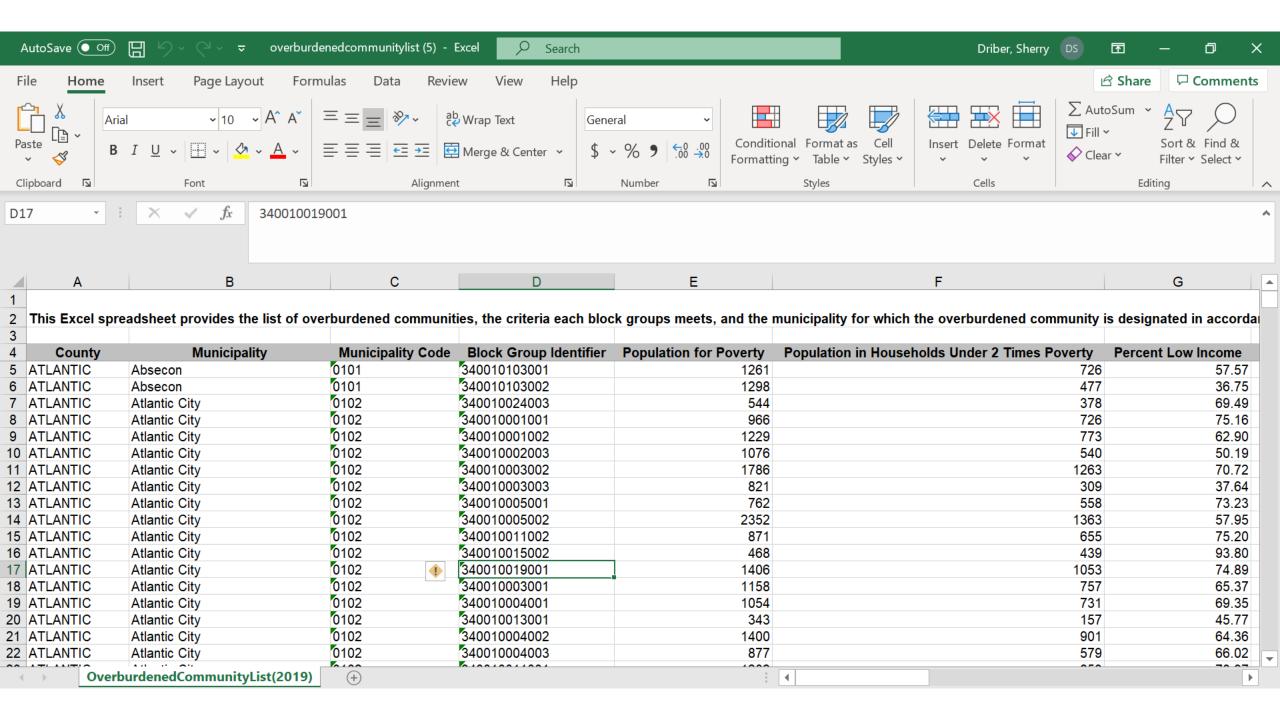
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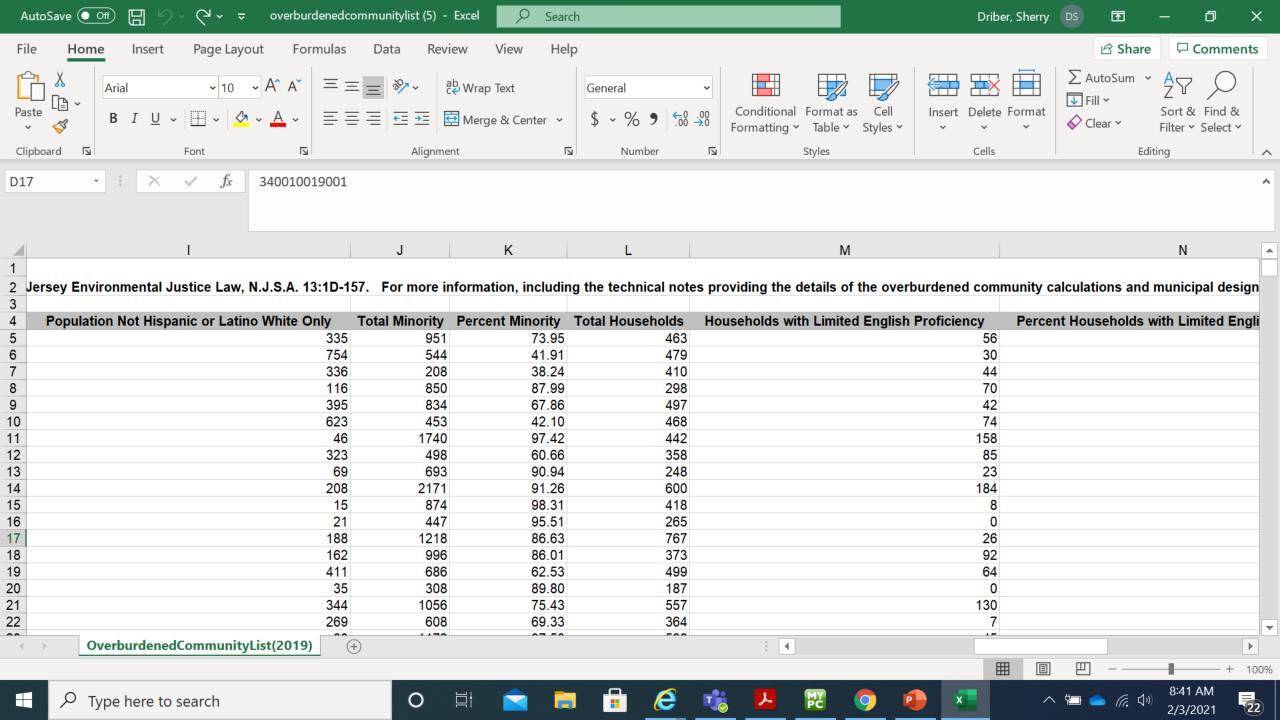


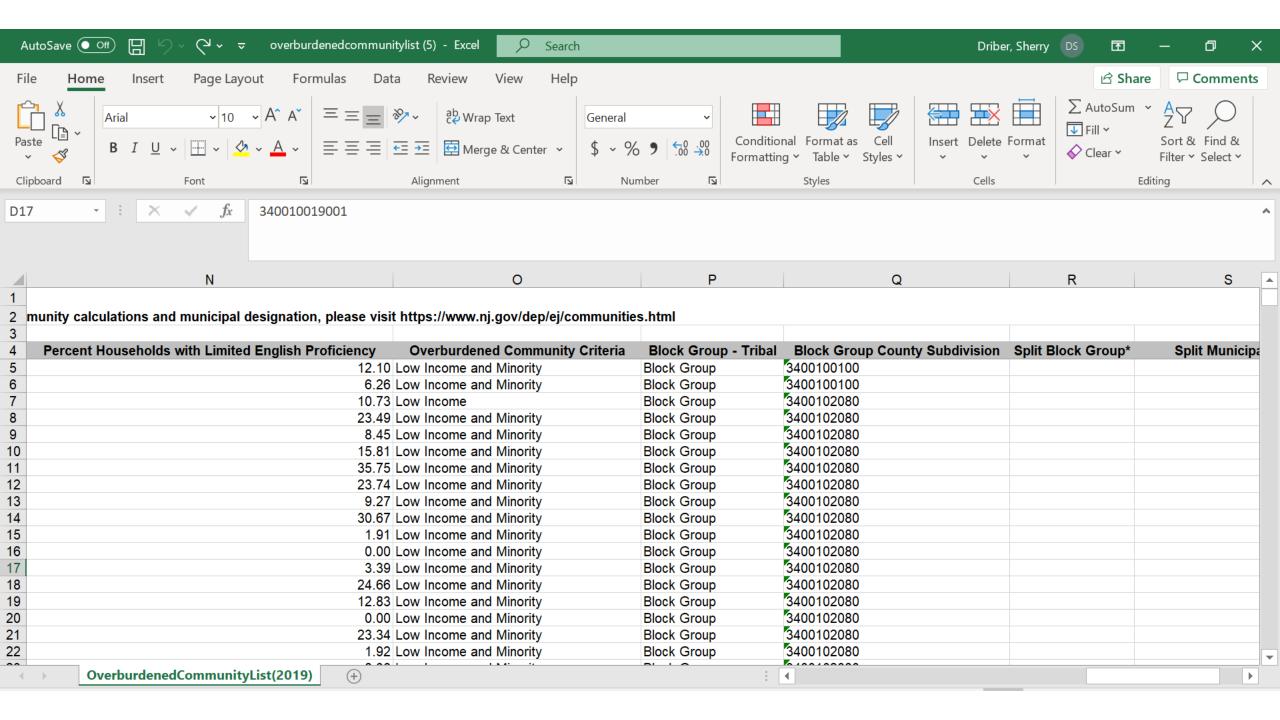
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#### List of Overburdened Communities

nj.gov/dep/ej/communities.html

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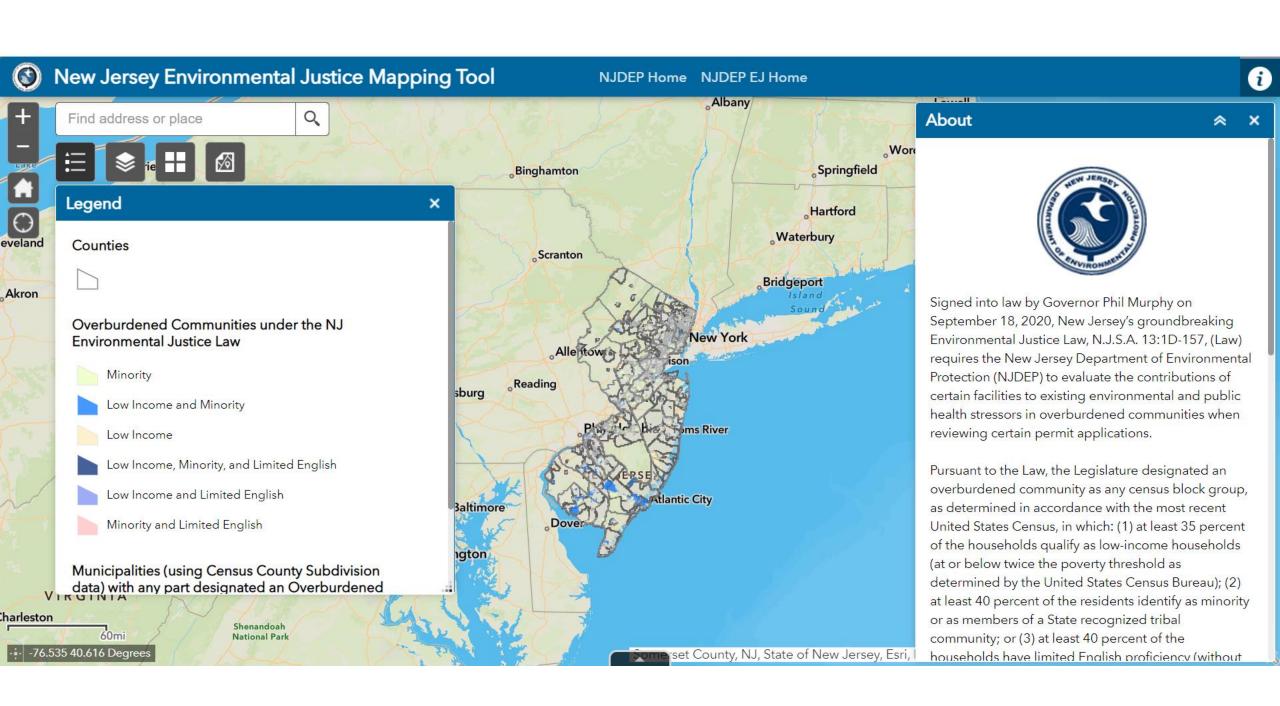
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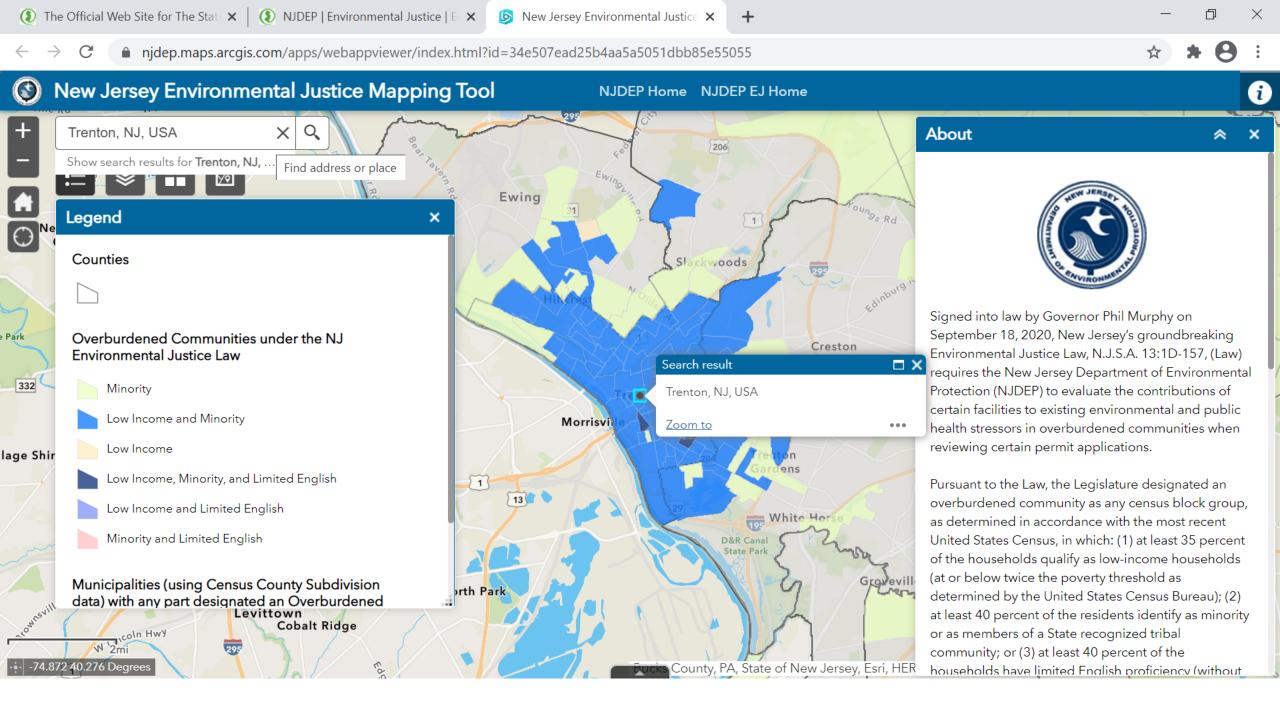
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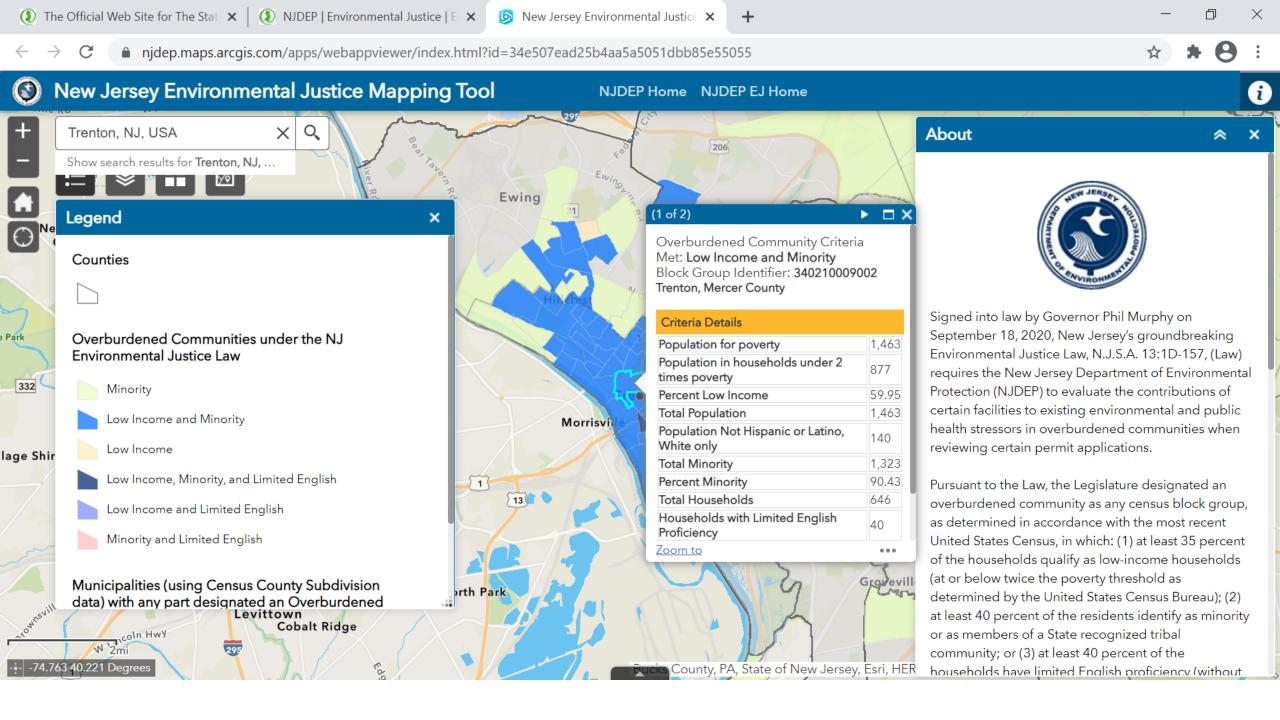
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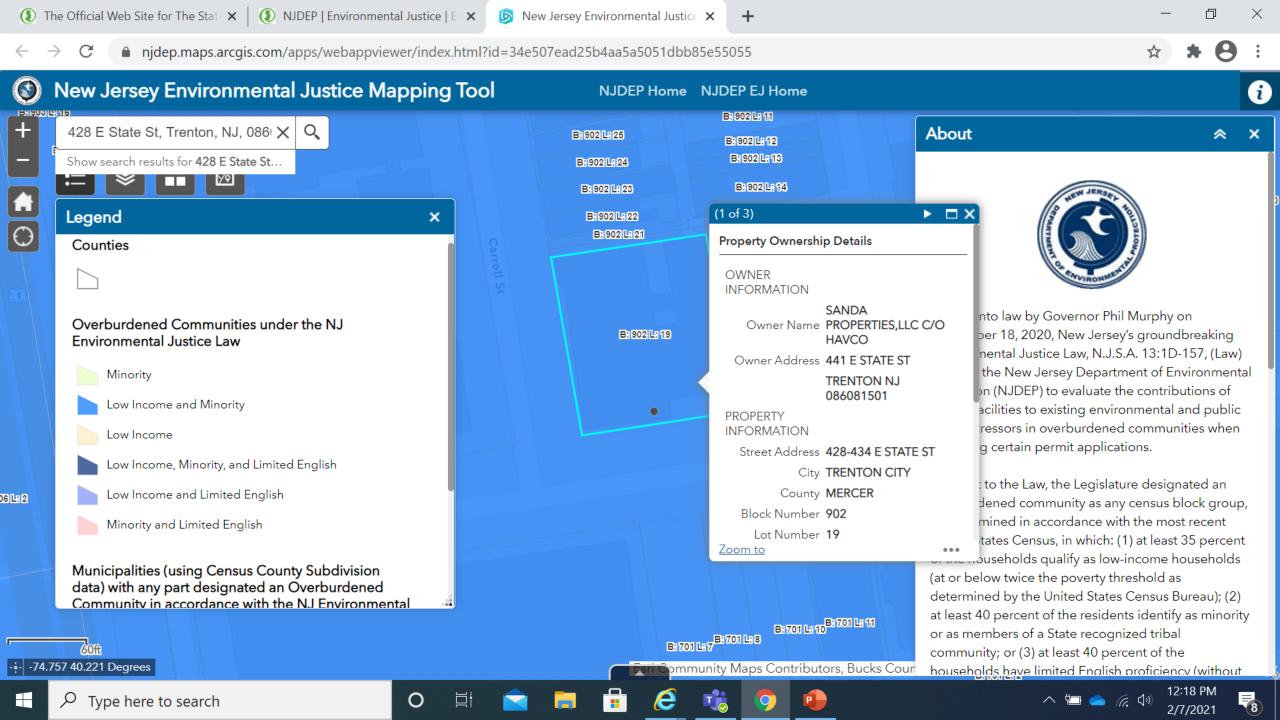
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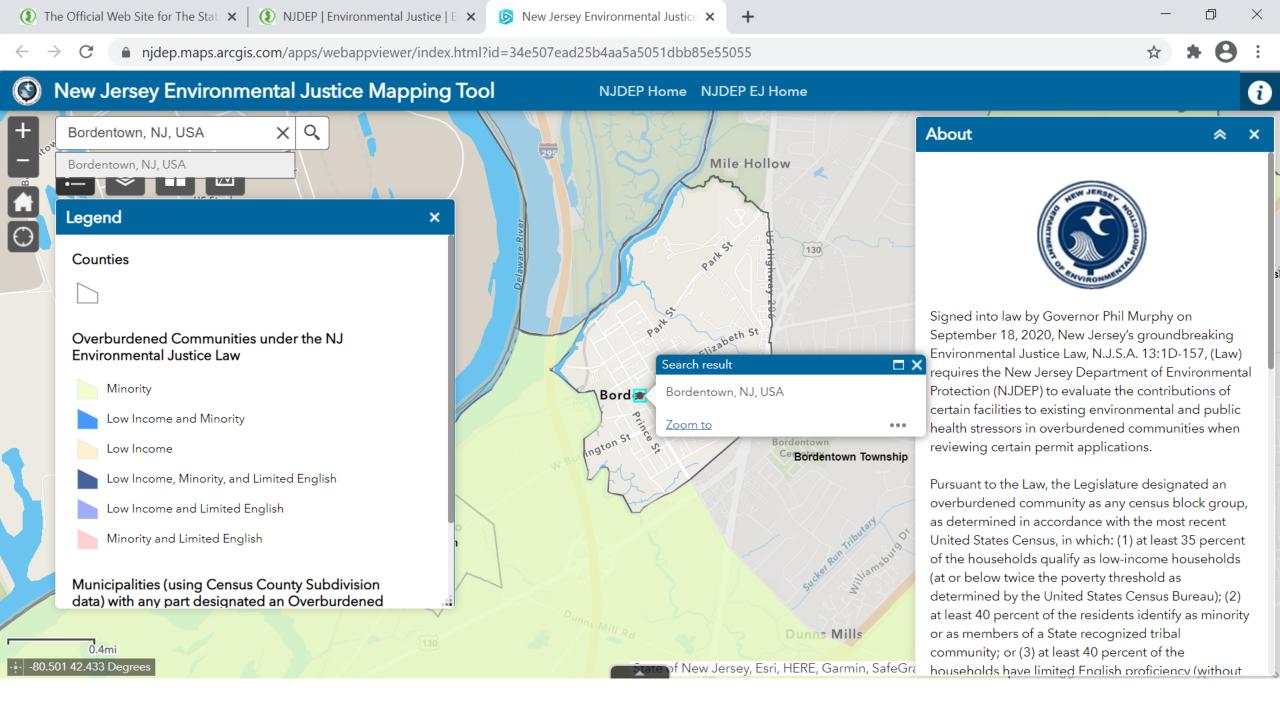


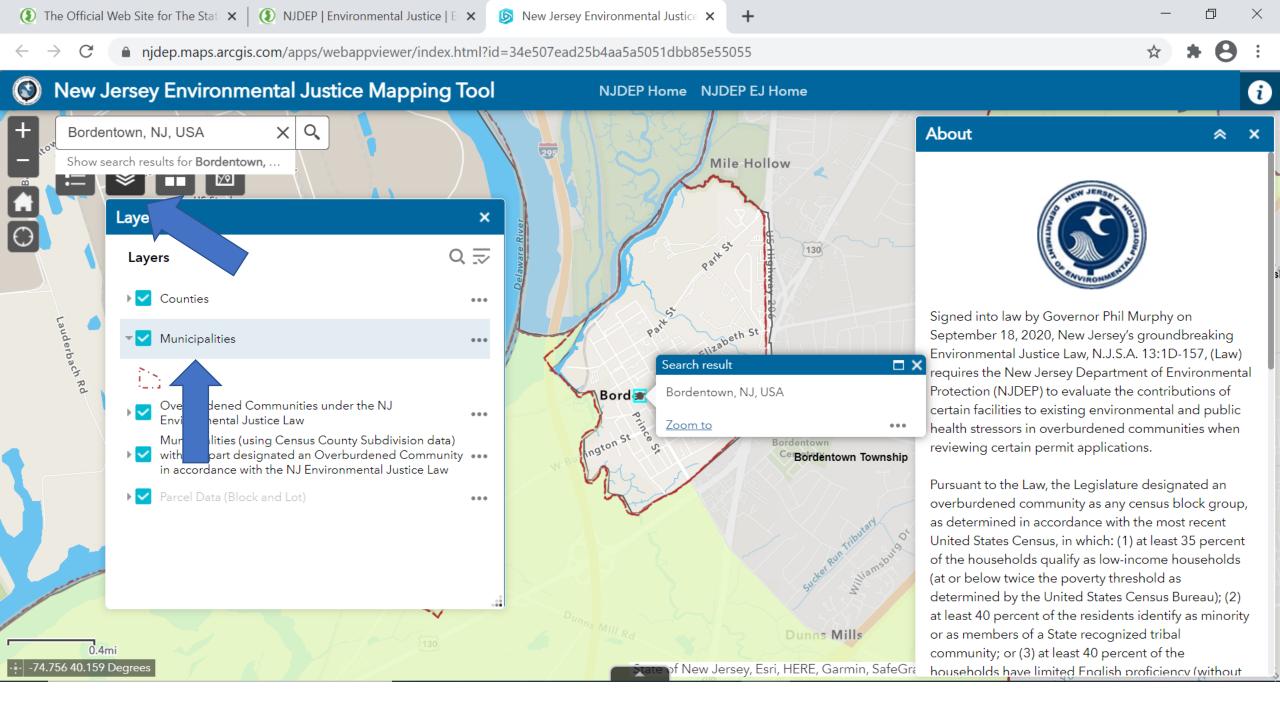


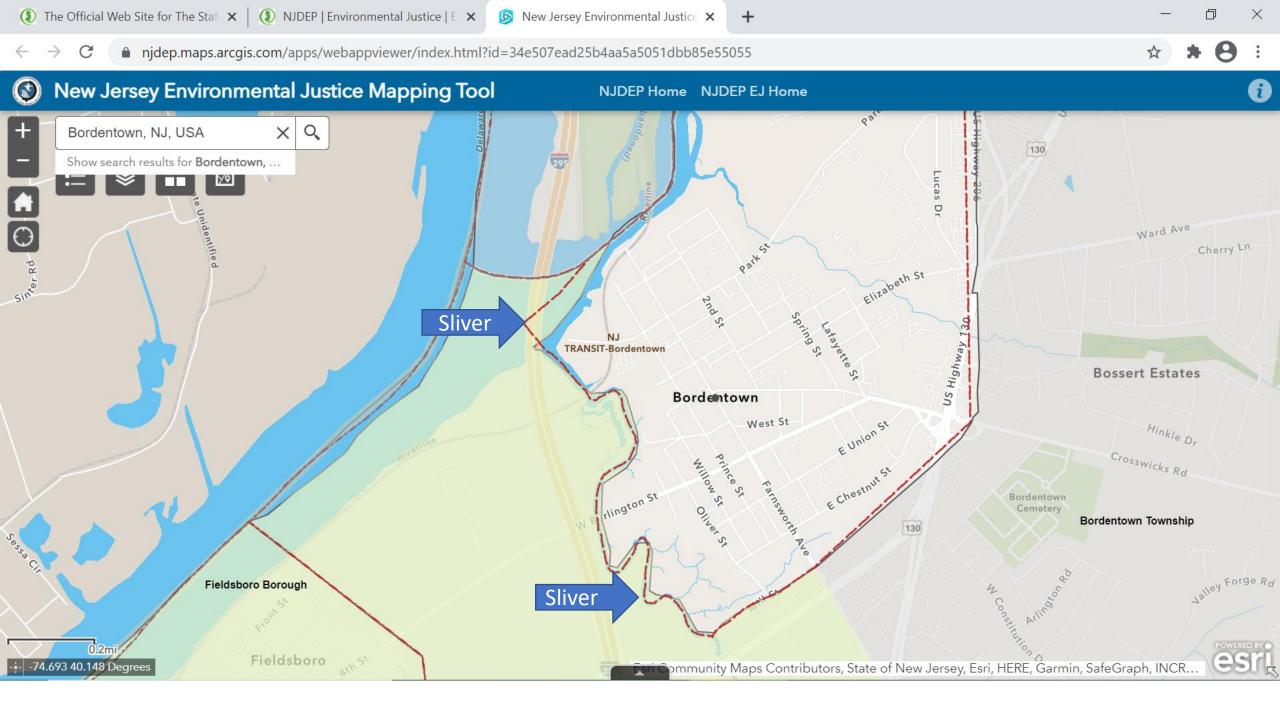


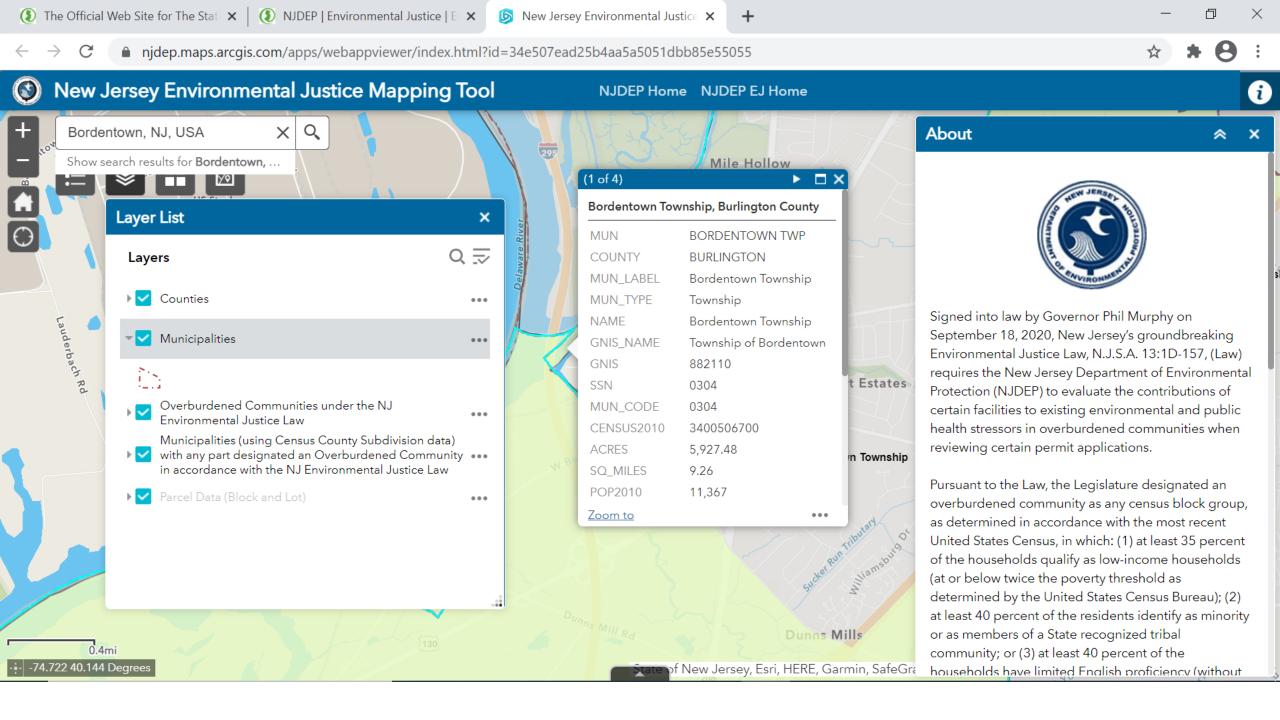
















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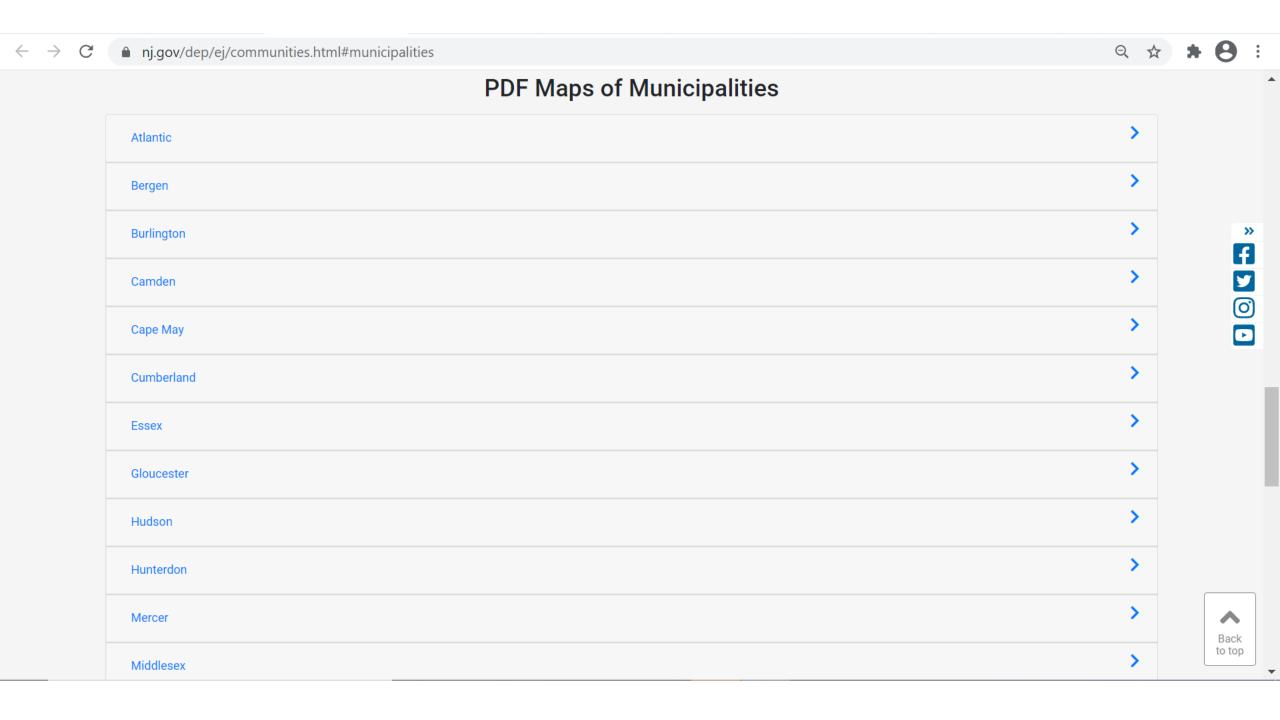


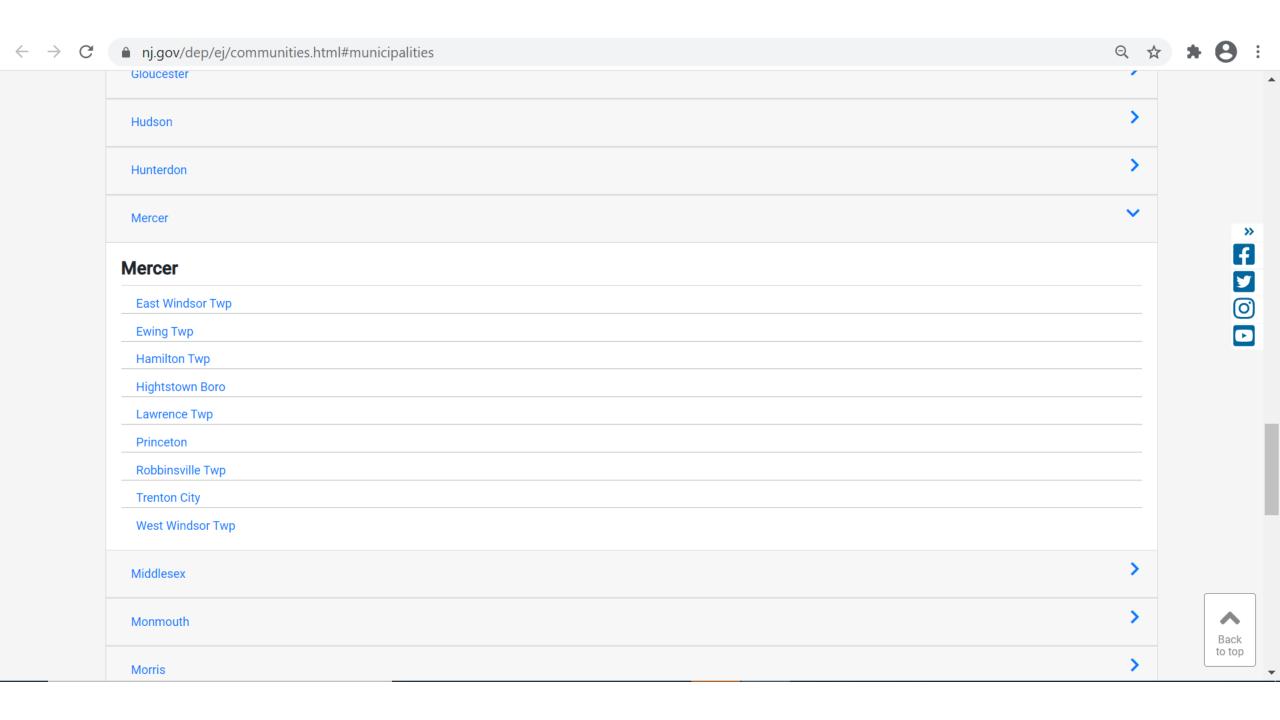












### Overburdened Communities Under the New Jersey Environmental Justice Law **Mercer County Trenton City** This map identifies Overburdened Communities under the New Jersey Legend Environmental Justice Law, N.J.S.A. 13:10-157. An overburdened Trenton City community is any census block group, as determined in accordance with the most recent United States Census, in which: (1) at least 35 percent Overburdened Community Criteria of the households qualify as low-income households; (2) at least 40 percent of the residents identify as minority or as members of a State Minority recognized tribal community; or (3) at least 40 percent of the Low Income and Minority households have limited English proficiency. For more information please visit https://www.ni.gov/dep/ei/communities.html Low Income Disclaimer: The boundary information in the TIGER/Line Shapefiles used Low Income, Minority, and Limited English for the maps are for statistical data collection and tabulation purposes only; their depiction and designation does not constitute a Low Income and Limited English determination of jurisdictional authority or rights of ownership or Date: 1/18/2021 Minority and Limited English entitlement and they are not legal land descriptions.





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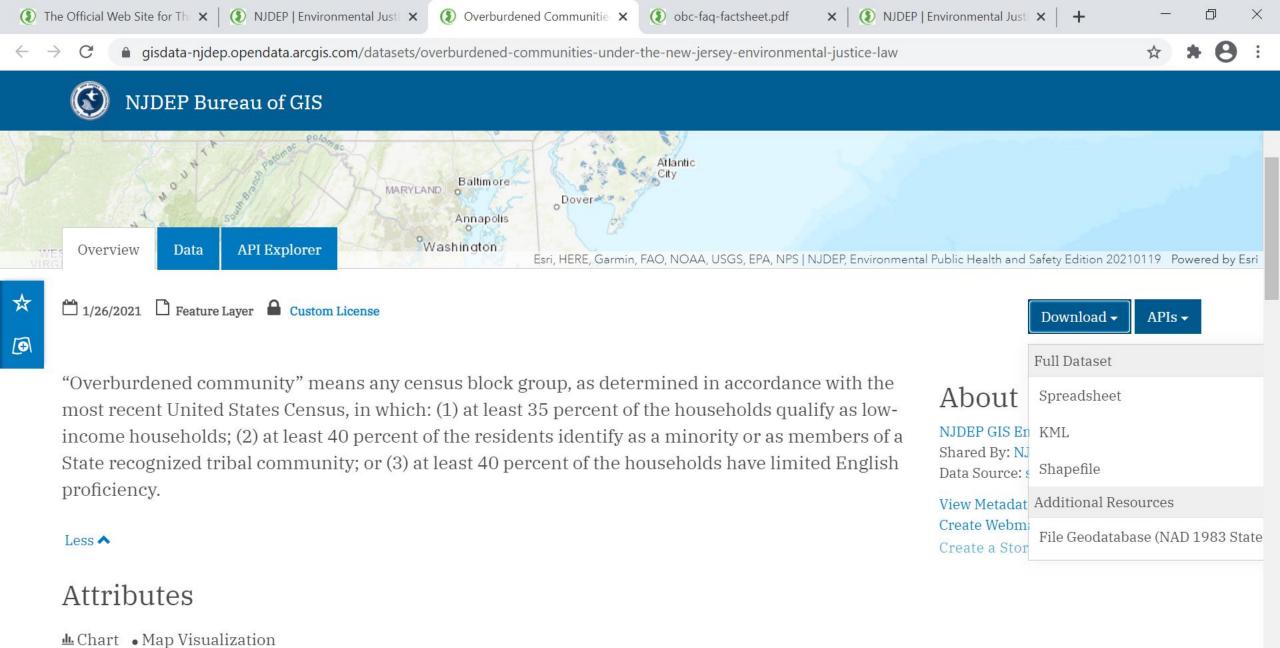


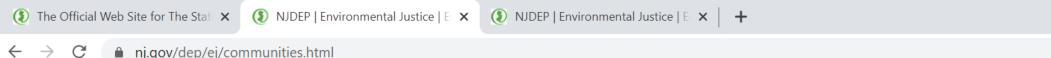
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#### NEW JERSEY ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE LAW

#### **Overburdened Communities Notification FAQ**

What is the Environmental Justice Law? Signed into law by Governor Phil Murphy on September 18, 2020, New Jersey's groundbreaking Environmental Justice Law, N.J.S.A. 13:1D-157, (Law) requires the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) to evaluate the contributions of certain facilities to existing environmental and public health stressors in overburdened communities when reviewing certain permit applications. Read New Jersey's Environmental Justice Law.

#### Why is my community receiving this notification?

The Law directs the NJDEP to publish a list of overburdened communities and provide notice to the 331 municipalities in which those communities are located.

What is an "overburdened community"? Pursuant to the Law, the Legislature designated an overburdened community as any census block group, as determined in accordance with the most recent United States Census, in which: (1) at least 35 percent of the households qualify as low-income households (at or below twice the poverty threshold as determined by the United States Census Bureau); (2) at least 40 percent of the residents identify as minority or as members of a State recognized tribal community; or (3) at least 40 percent of the households have limited English proficiency (without an adult that speaks English "very well" according to the United States Census Bureau).

#### What information did NJDEP use to define

"overburdened community"? NJDEP used the most recent census data from 2019 (5-year American Community Survey Data 2015 to 2019). Calculations were done for Census Block Groups (Summary Level 150) and Tribal Areas (Summary Level 280) with municipal boundaries determined by using the US Census County Subdivision GIS files. These files are similar to New Jersey's municipal boundaries but align with the census block group files. If at least one Block Group or Tribal Area in the municipality meets the definition of overburdened community in the Environmental Justice Law, the municipality will be notified.

#### Where can I view the overburdened communities list?

The data is being provided in the following formats through the NJDEP's Environmental Justice webpage.

- <u>List of block groups</u> identified as an overburdened community within a municipality in an Excel spreadsheet;
- Interactive mapping tool;
- <u>PDF maps</u> for each municipality that has any part designated as an overburdened community; and
- Downloadable GIS layer

#### How will the list of overburdened communities be used in the Environmental Justice Law? As required

by the Law, permits issued by the NJDEP for certain facilities will be required to meet the requirements set forth in the implementing regulations, including providing residents in overburdened communities with opportunities for enhanced participation in the permitting process. These requirements will go into effect upon adoption of the implementing regulations. The NJDEP is in the process of crafting these regulations with input solicited from its stakeholders.

How can I learn more? RSVP here for a webinar on February 9, 2021, 3 p.m. – 4 p.m. where NJDEP will walk through the method used to identify overburdened communities and whether any part of the municipality has been designated an overburdened community and answer questions from its local government partners.

How can I get involved? All municipalities are also invited to participate in the Environmental Justice rulemaking stakeholder process. The first public information session was held in the fall. Visit the Environmental Justice rulemaking website for a meeting recording and presentation material and other rulemaking process information. RSVP here to participate in the next stakeholder meeting: January 20, 2021, 6 p.m. – 8 p.m. Geographic Points of Comparison/Facility & Permit Definitions for Environmental Justice/Environmental/Community Organizations, and related parties.

How can I get updates? Subscribe to the Environmental Justice Rulemaking email list to stay informed about stakeholder sessions.

